

TRIBUTE

Judah Jamison,

Lead Animal Care Specialist & American Red Wolf SAFE Liaison

Max

N EARLY OCTOBER, we had to make the devastating decision to euthanize one-and-a-half-year-old m2536 (Max) due to the rapid development of osteosarcoma, a lethal bone cancer. Max was born in May 2023 to American Red wolves F2189 (Pika) and M2235 (Ben). Due to the potential for wild release, Max and his family were housed in the back of the sanctuary and monitored via remote cameras.

Staff delighted in watching Max and his sister, f2537 (Cassia), from their first steps out of the family den to their adolescent tussling and joyous play. Max, with his beautiful and darkly marked face, was the shyest and most cautious family member, allowing his parents and sister to assess new food and enrichment items before he felt comfortable coming out of hiding for his share.

In September, animal care staff noted that Max had a slight limp and, within a week, he began developing a lump on his front right leg. Max was captured by the animal care team and taken to our veterinarian for examination and biopsies. The pathology from the biopsies indicated that Max had osteosarcoma. After consulting with numerous experts, it was sadly unanimous that there was no possibility for a cure for Max. After two more weeks of bonding and playing with his parents and sister, painful swelling developed and we made the decision to help Max rest.

Rest in peace, beautiful boy.

